

## STUDENT TIME LINE

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Advisor: \_\_\_\_\_

Week (Date)      Check When Completed

1. Choose an area that interests you. Identify a problem or specific topic to investigate within that area.
2. Complete the project entry form and submit it to your advisor/teacher for approval. If you are experimenting with vertebrate animals, humans or animal tissues or organs you must also complete Form 2, 3 or 4. Once your advisor has approved and signed your proposal you may begin work on your project.
3. Research your topic thoroughly. Sources include science books, technical journals and interviews with people in your field of study.
4. Organize everything you plan to do.
5. Write out your procedure.
6. Propose a hypothesis. This is an educated guess cornering the outcome of your experiment.
7. Gather all necessary materials.
8. Perform your experiment. Remember to include a control, if applicable, properly manage all variables, maintain an adequate sample size and collect your data in metric units when possible.
9. Analyze your results. Use tables or graphs to show important relationships.
10. From your results, formulate your conclusions. Was your original hypothesis correct? Must you perform any additional experiments to prove or support your conclusion?
11. Begin work on your display. Present the information you collected in easy-to-read graphs or tables. Reserve special areas on your display for your Problem, Hypothesis, Procedure, Results and Conclusion. If you plan to use photographs allow enough time to have them printed. Include a project report (notebook) and secure it to the backboard with a chain or cord. Also, prepare a 200-250 word project summary (abstract) describing the problem, procedures, results and conclusions (this is important in the judging process).
12. Be prepared to give a 3-5 minute presentation that describes your project (this can simply be a presentation of your problem, how you went about solving it and what you discovered).
13. Bring your project to school or to the science fair location.